



Meeting

6

Gadgets & Sand



Here are three fun activities that encourage Eager Beavers to play and learn with gadgets and sand. Adapt the activities to meet the needs of your Eager Beavers or create your own activities.





MEETING LENGTH

60-80 MINUTES

- Opening (5 minutes)
- Story Time (10 minutes)
- Activities (40-60 minutes)
- Closing (5 minutes)

Opening

Using a beaver puppet, greet each of the children by name and welcome them all to Eager Beavers. Have the children sit in a circle.

5

MINUTES



Listen to a story about sand.

CHIP COMPLETED

GADGETS & SAND



Story Time

ALL ABOUT SAND

10

MINUTES

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Book about sand

Read a book about sand such as *Jump Into Science: Sand* (Prager, 2006), *Sand Cake* (Asch, 2015) or tell the story of the foolish man that built his house on the sand (Matthew 7:24-27).

Then ask the children what they like about sand or help them understand the lesson from Matthew 7:24-27. Finally, share with the children that they will be playing with sand.





The following activities fulfill the requirements for the Gadgets & Sand chip.

Eager Beaver Bites

WHAT YOU DO

Have several children stand in a row and measure who can reach the highest or who has the longest arms. Or bring in a large scale and have several children stand on it at once to see what the total weight is. Tell the children that using a ruler or scale is one way to measure. Ask if they know of any other ways to measure things. Show the children a variety of sizes of measuring cups and spoons. Ask the children why measuring cups and spoons are used and if they've used them. Demonstrate the use of plastic measuring cups and spoons by measuring sand, rice, or beans into containers. Expand this activity by having the children guess how many cups a container will hold or place two different containers side by side and ask the children which container will hold the most. After the children have guessed, fill the containers and find out the answer. Then let the children measure items and put them into containers. The greater the variety of containers and measurable items, the more fun the children will have!

Next, tell the children that they get to measure and prepare their own snack. On a large poster board place pictures illustrating the recipe for Eager Beaver Bites (e.g. a picture of raisins with two spoons next to it). In large bowls, individually place the dry cereal and fruit. (You can come up with any combination of ingredients. Just be aware of any food allergies or dietary restrictions the children may have.) Then let the children measure ingredients and mix them together in individual bowls. Place the mixture in small bags for the children to take home. Remember to have fun and let them snack as they measure!

15

MINUTES

1

ACTIVITY

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Plastic measuring cups and spoons
- Sand, rice, or beans
- Clear containers in various sizes and shapes
- Dry cereal
- Two types of dried fruit
- Plastic bags (small)
- Mixing bowls
- Spoons
- Yardstick
- Scales
- Poster board
- Marker



ACTIVITY

2

Gadget Gaiety

10

MINUTES

WHAT YOU DO

Ahead of time: Mix equal amounts of sand and rice together in bowls. You can either prepare one bowl for each child or several for the group to share.

Begin the activity by having the children repeat the following paraphrased verse from Matthew 7:26: "People who don't obey God's words are like the foolish man who built his house on sand."

Ask the children why it is foolish to build a house on sand. Then give each child a container of the sand and rice mixture or place several large communal containers of the mixture around the work areas. Have the children scoop the mixture into sieves to separate the rice and sand. (See the previous activity to learn how to make your own sieves.) Make sure the children have two containers, one for the sand and one for the rice.

You can expand this activity by having more than one mixture to strain, such as sand and marbles or cornmeal and bird seed. For those of you who are really brave, have the children use an egg separator to divide an egg white from the yolk. You can also use a variety of containers for the children to place the strained mixtures into, such as clear plastic bottles, flat box lids, and round metal cans.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Scoops
- Sieves
- Sand
- Salt
- Rice
- Containers, three per child or two per child plus several communal bowls for the group



Sand in a Bottle

15

MINUTES

WHAT YOU DO

Ahead of time: Purchase colored sand or use food coloring to dye salt. (Place the salt in a large Ziploc bag, add a few drops of food coloring, and shake. Repeat until you get the desired color. Leave the bags open to let the food coloring dry.) Three or four different colors works best.

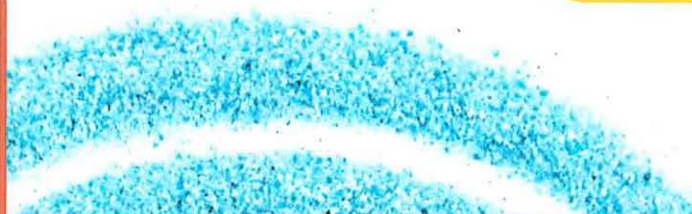
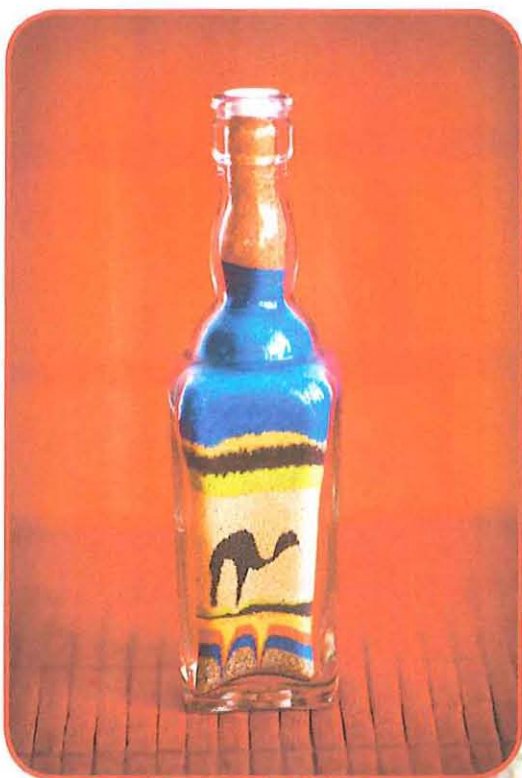
Begin by showing the children a completed sand in a bottle project. To fill the bottles, give each child a funnel and scoop. Then demonstrate how to place the funnel in the top of the bottle and scoop the sand into the funnel. The children should alternate colors until the bottle is completely full to keep the sand from shifting. Put the cap on the bottle and make sure it's screwed on tightly.

3

ACTIVITY

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Clear plastic 8-ounce water bottles with caps, one per child
- Colored sand or salt, food coloring, and Ziploc bags
- Funnels, one per child
- Scoops, one per child





ACTIVITY

4

Dried Bean Picture

10

MINUTES

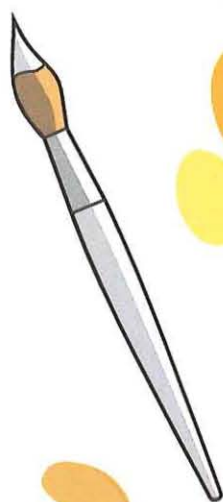
MATERIALS NEEDED

- Dried beans, several different types
- Containers
- Poster board
- Coloring books
- Craft glue
- Small dishes for glue
- Paintbrushes

WHAT YOU DO

Ahead of time: Tear pages out of a coloring book and glue one picture on poster board for each Eager Beaver. Choose pictures that are not too detailed, but instead have large areas the kids can fill in with beans.

Have the children measure different types of beans into containers. Give each child a pre-printed picture on poster board. Place small dishes of craft glue and a paintbrush in front of each child. Have the children paint the glue onto the picture and then cover it with beans. Be sure to allow enough time for the children to clean up before moving on to the next activity.



Closing

5

MINUTES

Gather the children into a circle and ask them a specific question about what they learned during Eager Beavers. Say a prayer and then ask for an Eager Beaver to volunteer to pray for the group. Rejoin the rest of the Adventurers for the closing program.



Chip: Gadgets & Sand